PANAMA CANAL NEEDS MORE PROTECTION

Harding Party on Visit to Huge Engineering Work In-

spected Present Defense. Ancon, Canal Zone.—(I. N. S.)— Stronger fortifications for the Panama canal-this is the cry of the American

Military leaders among the American forces are thoroughly convinced that some day the United States must fight the Panama canal. They argue that commerce is the root of all war and that gradually the world will awaken to the fact that in the Panama canal the United States holds the key of the success or failure of a large propertion of world commerce.

President-elect Harding and his party or their recent visit here saw the forti-

President-elect Harding and his party on their recent visit here saw the fortifications of the Panama canal and they heard suggestions that greater fortifications are necessary. They are non-committat, but it was generally evident that some of the members of the party were impressed by the need of more fortifications.

"This great work that cost billions is surely worth protection." Senator Fresurery worth protection." Senator Fresurery worth protection."

aurely worth protection." Senator Fre-linghuysen, of New Jersey, a member of the senate military affairs commit-tee, said after he had viewed the fortifi-

The Pannma canal is not invulner-able now, that is certain, despite the great guns which poke out of the hills

great guns which poke out of the hills of Panama.

From attack by sea on the Pacific side the canal seems to be fairly well protected. Fortifications are not quite as well developed on the Atlantic side.

From the air the canal is extremely vulnerable. One well-placed bomb at Gatun locks might ruin the work of many years. Yet at Gatun there are but a few antiaircraft guns pointing their muzzles to the skies. Gatun is well located for an air strack. It is within easy striking distance for air-planes laurched from ships or even flewn from fields in adjacent Central American countries. There is a naval air station and an army station within a few miles of Gatun, but the forces at these stations are not large and it is doubtful whether they could withstand any well-organized offense.

At present the naval forces in the canal zone comprise a submarine flotilla. Pestroyers are promised and it is argued that either the Atlantic or Pacific fleet are within easy calling distance, yet to the untrained eye it appears that a sudden and timely attack might well put the Panama canal out of action and separate the Pacific and Atlantic locates.

Whether or not the United States is

Whether or not the United States is ever forced to fight for the Panama canal, and whether or not the fortifications as at present constituted are strong enough, it seems certain that congress is going to hear more about the needs of defenses for the canal zone than every previous converses has ever han any previous congress has ever

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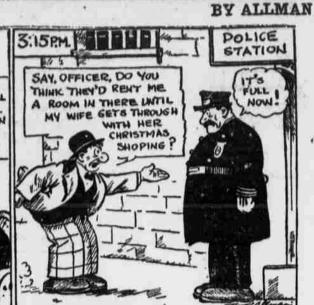
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To break up baby's cost oversible or one appendix or one and put its state where in condition to avoid complies yetem in condition to avoid complies yetem that a part of the present of t At the first wign of a cold or eros adic events give This Ense. Wish Ill steen befor and the cold is good a moreous Subv. Case. The perthe monthly and converted the monthly specifies in mothers and religious and howel community for any order of the mother and the sizes — (Adv.)

DOINGS OF THE DUFFS







BRINGING UP FATHER









BY GEORGE M'MANUS.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

The fascination of New York, certain purlieus of it, had not yet pailed upon Helen. Not one of the four seasons but had held its charm for her. When Adele would talk of taking a little trip here or there, Helen always smilingly planned some excursion at home.

"There's nothing to be seen outside of New York that we can't see here, and under better conditions," she insisted.

"You're developing into the kind who'd rather be a lamp-post in New York than the chamber of commerce other city." Adele laughed, after cit

BRITAIN'S WAR LORDS

London, Dec. 15.—The imperial De-fense committee which regulates the defenses of the whole British empire. defenses of the whole British empire, held a meeting yesterday at Premier Lioyd George's official residence at 10 Downing street to decide upon the future policy of construction of first line wirships. In addition to the premier the following were present: Lord Beatty, first sea lord of the admirally and commander of the fleet, Winston S. Churchill, secretary of war! Fart Curson, secretary of state for foreign affairs, blief Marshall Sir Henry Wilson hand of the general staff, and Sir of the general staff, and Sir es minister of transport. Lloyd-George twice inter-Ashterations of the comm Granucod chief secretary who called to discuss uner event the nature of his con

LITTLE STORIES FOR BEDTIME

The Old Brier Patch Has a

New Tenant.

New Tenant.

(By THORNTON W. BURGESS.)

Danny Meadow Moëse slowly opened his eyes and then closed them again quickly, as if afraid to look around. He could hear someone talking. It was a pleasant voice not at all like the voice of Hooty the Owl, which was the very last thing that Danny Meadow Mouse could remember. Danny lay still a minute and listened.

"Why, Danny Meadow Mouse, where in the world did you drop from?" asked the voice. It sounded like—why, very much like Peter Rabbit speaking. Danny opened his eyes again. It was Peter Rabbit.

"Where—where am !" asked Danny Meadow Mouse in a very weak, small voice.

Meadow Mouse in a very weak, small voice.

"In the middle of the dear Old Brier Patch with me," replied Peter Rabbit.
"but how did you get here?" You seemed to drop right out of the sky."

Danny Meadow Mouse shuddered. Suddenly he remembered everything—how Hooty the Owl had caught but in great, cruel claws and had carried him through the moonlight across the snow-covered Green Meadows; how he had felt Hooty's claws silp and then had struggled and kicked and twisted and turned until his cont had torn and he had dropped down, down, down, until he had landed in the soft snow and all the breath had been knocked out of his little body. The very last thing ne could remember was Hooty's lerce scream of rage and disappointment. Danny shuddered again.

Then a few thoughts came to him. He must get out of sight! Hooty might catch him sgain! Danny tried to scramble to his fee.
"Ouch! Oh!" groaned Danny, and lay still again.
"There, there, Keep still, Danny

scramble to his fee.

"Ouch! Oh!" groaned Danny, and lay still again.

"There, there, Keep still, Danny Meadow Mouse. There's nothing to be afraid of here, said Peter Rabbit gently. His big eyes filled with tears as he looked at Danny Meadow Mouse, for Danny was all torn and hurt by the cruel claws of Hooty the Owl, and you know Peter has a very tender heart.

So Danny lay still, and while Peter Rabbit tried to make him comfortable and dress his hurts he told Peter all about how he had forgotten to watch up in the sky and so had been caught by Hooty the Owl, and all about his terrible ride in Hooty's cruel claws.

"Oh, dear, whatever shall I do now"? he ended. "However shall I do now"? he ended. "However shall I get back home to my warm house of grass, my safe little tunnels under the snow, and my little store of seeds in the snug hollow in the old fence post?"

Peter Kabbit looked thoughtful "You can't do it," said he. "You simbly can't do it," said he. "You simbly can't do it. It is such a long way for a little fellow like you that it wouldn't be safe to try. If you went at night Hooty the Owl might catch you again. If you tried in daylight old Roughleg

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